Misbehaviour with Indian women by Iraqi soldiers in Kuwait

3298. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been some incidents of molestation and raping of Indian women by Iraqi soldiers in Kuwait, as reported in The Independent an English daily published from Bombay in its edition dated 19th August, 1990; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the press report on the subject. The matter was investigated by our Ambassador in Kuwait who reported after enquiries with the Indian community and the local authorities that only one such complaint had been received. The local authorities have promised to take immediate action on this.

Crimes against SC|ST and women in Bihar

3299. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of crimes against SC/ST and women registered in Bihar during the year 1989-90;

(b) the number of cases investigated and number of cases pending alongwith the reasons for pendency; and

(c) what action is being taken to stop such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected from the Government of Bihar and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indians in Gulf region

3300. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Indians working in Gulf region have begun to send back some of their family members apprehending a war;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard;

(c) what is the total number of Indians working in Kuwait, Baharain, Qatar, Oman and UAE;

(d) whether it is also a fact that while coming to India with Kuwaiti currencies they are not accepted at the Indian Airports; and

(e) if so, the action Government propose to take to avoid the inconveniences caused to the women and children coming to India due to such a difficult situation there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Additional flights, including special charter flights have been arranged from Amman, Dhanran, Riyadh and at other points in the Gulf. Our Embassies assisted in the movement of our nationals from Kuwait to Amman via Baghdad.

(c) Number of Indians is as follows (Approximate figures):

Kuwait	:1,72,000
Bahrain	:80,000
Qatar	:75,000
Oman	:1,90,000
UAE	:2,75,000

(d) and (e) Reserve Bank of India has doubled the conversion facility for Kuwaiti Dinars at all international airports in the country from Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 10,000/- per passport holder.